

Remarks/ Arguments

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, Claims 17 to 25, 28, 29, 32, and 35 to 53 will be pending in this patent application. Claim 17 has been amended, without prejudice. Claims 26, 27, 30 and 31 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1 to 16, 33 and 34 have been canceled without prejudice as a results of the finality of the Restriction Requirement as indicated at page 2 of the Action. Applicants reserve the right to present the subject matter of the canceled claims in a later-filed divisional application. Claim 35 and 36 are new. Support for new Claim 35 is found in Applicants' specification at, for example, paragraph [0032] on pages 12 to 13. Support for new Claim 36 is found, for example, in original Claim 17 and at page 9, line 15 of Applicants' specification.

Claims 37 to 53 are also new. Claims 37 to 53 have been introduced to define Applicants' process solutions more narrowly by reciting the transition phrase "consisting of." Support for Claims 37 to 53 is found throughout Applicants' specification and original claims. No new matter has been added.

The Action includes rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are requested respectfully.

Request for Clarification Regarding Amendments

Applicants' paper mailed on July 31, 2006 included amendments to the specification as well as to certain of the claims which were not in Elected Group III. The Action does not indicate whether any of the amendments were entered. To avoid confusion in the future, Applicants request acknowledgement from the Examiner in the next paper as to whether the amendments were entered.

Discussion of the Rejections Under 35 U.S.C § 102

Claims 17 to 32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,944,893 to Tanaka et. al.; U.S. Patent No. 5,232,815 to Browne et. al.; U.S. Patent No. 5,508,141 to Hart et. al.; U.S. Patent No. 5,650,543 to Medina; U.S. Patent No. 6,194,366 to Naghshineh; U.S. Patent No. 6,261,745 to Tanabe; U.S. Patent No. 6,313,182 to Lassila et al.; and U.S. Patent No. 6,552,091 to Boinowictz et al.. Claims 17 to 32 have also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. patent application Publication No. 2002/0106589 to Rodney et al.; U.S. patent application Publication No. 2004/0071967 to Lee; U.S. patent application Publication No. 2005/0176605 to Lee; and U.S. Patent No. 7,078,358 to Roberts et al.. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the cited references do not disclose each and every element of Applicants' claimed invention.

Each of the cited references was alleged to be anticipatory, in part, because they disclose a surfactant having the formula (I) or (II). Claims 17 to 35 as amended above, however, do not define a process solution comprising a surfactant having the formula (I) or (II). The surfactants of formulas (IXa), (IXb), (Xb) and (Xc) have also been deleted from Claims 17 to 35. Thus, as amended, Applicants' claimed invention defines a process rinse solution comprising (1) an aqueous solvent, (2) a non-aqueous solvent, and (3) at least one surfactant selected from the group of surfactants having the formula (III), (IVa), (IVb), (V), (VI), (VII), (VIII), (IXc), (Xa), or (Xd) (*see, e.g.*, Claim 17). Applicants submit respectfully that none of the cited references discloses a process solution comprising at least one surfactant selected from the group of surfactants having the formula (III), (IVa), (IVb), (V), (VI), (VII), (VIII), (IXc), (Xa), or (Xd).

New Claim 36 includes all of the elements of Claim 17 with the addition of at least one surfactant selected from the group consisting of formula (I) and (II). Thus, new Claim 36

requires a combination of at least one surfactant selected from the group consisting of formula (I) and (II) **and** at least one surfactant selected from the group of surfactants having the formula (III), (IVa), (IVb), (V), (VI), (VII), (VIII), (IXc), (Xa), or (Xd). Applicants submit respectfully that none of the cited references discloses a process solution comprising at least one surfactant selected from the group consisting of formula (I) and (II) **and** at least one surfactant selected from the group of surfactants having the formula (III), (IVa), (IVb), (V), (VI), (VII), (VIII), (IXc), (Xa), or (Xd). Thus, for at least this reason, none of the cited references discloses every recitation of Applicants' claimed invention. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 are requested respectfully.

New Claims 37 to 53 define a process rinse solution **consisting of** (1) an aqueous solvent, (2) a non-aqueous solvent, and (3) at least one surfactant selected from the group of surfactants having the formula (III), (IVa), (IVb), (V), (VI), (VII), (VIII), (IXa), (IXb), (IXc), (Xa), (Xb), (Xc), or (Xd). Applicants submit respectfully that none of the cited references discloses a process solution **consisting of** at least one surfactant selected from the group of surfactants having the formula (III), (IVa), (IVb), (V), (VI), (VII), (VIII), (IXa), (IXb), (IXc), (Xa), (Xb), (Xc), or (Xd). Accordingly, Applicants submit respectfully that new Claims 37 to 53 are patentable over the prior art of record.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a complete and full response to the Action of record. Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an indication of allowability and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee required and any additional fees that may be needed to Deposit Account No. 01-0493 in the name of Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

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